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Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/630,682

Examiner

Tarifur R Chowdhury

Applicant(s)

FUJISHIRO, FUMIHIKO

Art Unit

2871

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to response filed on 12/29/04.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1, 2, 5 and 6.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 23 September 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
 - * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date <u>09/23/03</u> | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

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EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows:

This application is in condition for allowance except for the presence of claims 3, 4, 7 and 8 to species non-elected without traverse. Accordingly, claims 3, 4, 7 and 8 have been cancelled.

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Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1, 2, 5 and 6 are allowed.
3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:
4. The prior arts of record do not anticipate or render obvious to one skilled in the art a reflective type LCD device or a method of fabricating such a device comprising various elements as claimed, more specifically a reflector plate with irregularity pattern, the pattern being formed by a combination of blocks arranged in an array and each of the block including a basic irregularity pattern for one pixel and (N-1) (N being a positive integer; $N \geq 2$) modified basic irregularity pattern, the basic irregularity pattern being continuous at either end thereof and divided in a same direction as the arrangement direction, thereby forming N sub-patterns and each of the (N-1) modified basic irregularity pattern or patterns being formed by the N sub-patterns circularly shifted one by one.
5. All the prior arts cited alone or in combination fail to teach or suggest the claimed reflective LCD device or the method of fabricating such a device. For example: USPAT 6,606,139; USPAT 6,734,934; US 2002/0135718; US2003/0164912 and JP 2000-298274 disclose a reflective LCD device comprising a reflector plate with irregular pattern. However, none of the references alone or in combination teach or suggest the claimed reflective LCD device wherein the irregular pattern being formed by a combination of blocks arranged in an array and each of the block including a basic irregularity pattern for one pixel and (N-1) (N being a positive integer; $N \geq 2$) modified basic irregularity pattern, the basic irregularity pattern being continuous at either end

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thereof and divided in a same direction as the arrangement direction, thereby forming N sub-patterns and each of the (N-1) modified basic irregularity pattern or patterns being formed by the N sub-patterns circularly shifted one by one. Further, US 2004/0223097 discloses reflector plate with irregular surface wherein the irregular surface including irregularity groups each of which having substantially randomly arranged irregularities in plan view, and the irregular surface including a periodically repeating arrangement of irregularities with a plurality of the irregularity groups as a repetition unit. However, the above reference is not a valid prior art since the effective filing date of the above reference is after the filing date of the instant application.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

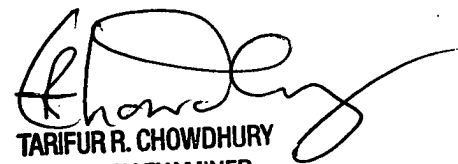
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tarifur R Chowdhury whose telephone number is (571) 272-2287. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th (6:30-5:00) Friday Off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert Kim can be reached on (571) 272-2293. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

TRC
January 26, 2004



TARIFUR R. CHOWDHURY
PRIMARY EXAMINER